UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

----- x

In re : Chapter 11 Case No.

LEHMAN BROTHERS HOLDINGS INC., et al., : 08-13555 (SCC)

Debtors. : (Jointly Administered)

## DECLARATION OF CLAIMANT MICHAEL K. McCULLY IN OPPOSITION TO DEBTORS' FOURTEEN OMNIBUS OBJECTIONS SEEKING TO RECLASSIFY COMPENSATION CLAIMS AS EQUITY, OR ALTERNATIVELY TO SUBORDINATE CLAIMS PURSUANT TO § 510(b) OF THE BANKRUPTCY CODE

Michael K. McCully declares under penalty of perjury, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, as follows:

- 1. I make this Declaration based on my personal knowledge and the documents available to me, and would testify to the following if called upon. I authorize the filing of this objection in opposition to Lehman's 313<sup>th</sup> Omnibus Objection.
- 2. I was employed by Lehman Brothers from 1988 through 2008. Lehman Brothers terminated my employment on March 10, 2008. Upon the termination of my employment, Lehman Brothers assured me that my termination was an "involuntary termination without cause" as that phrase is defined in the "RSU Agreements" between Lehman Brothers and employees. Upon my execution of a Separation Agreement and Release dated April 11, 2008, I satisfied the "Release Requirement" set forth in the RSU Agreements.
- 3. Lehman compensated me on what it called a Total Compensation basis, by payment of an annual salary (paid in bi-weekly installments) plus a bonus. My bonus was an

integral part of my compensation – my annual salary during the years at issue here ranged from 18 to 57 percent of my total compensation.

- 4. For each year between 2003 and 2007 Lehman told me in writing, shortly after the end of each fiscal year (November 30), the amount of my bonus for that year and that my bonus was being divided into two portions, one designated Restricted Stock Awards (or "RSUs") and one designated as the "Total Cash Payment." For each of those years, 25 percent of my bonus was designated as RSUs
- 5. When Lehman paid me the "Total Cash Payment" portion of my bonus, Lehman reported it to the tax authorities as compensation income and I paid income tax on it through customary withholding. While the RSU-designated portion was declared as part of my bonus at the same time, Lehman did not report it to the tax authorities as my compensation income; nor did Lehman advise me that I should do so.
- 6. At no time could I decline to accept Lehman's designation of a portion of my compensation in the form of RSUs (except in two years to receive a portion in options). My participation in this compensation plan was automatic and mandatory -- there were no election or enrollment forms to complete, I could not choose whether or not to participate or to limit the amount of my bonus that was designated as RSUs, and I had no ability to direct how the amounts that Lehman withheld would be used. Since what I received was Lehman's contract promise to pay in the future, I paid no tax on the RSU-designated portion of my compensation. While Lehman described it as part of my "Total Compensation" for that fiscal year, on a form Lehman called "200\_\_\_ Total Compensation Statement," this RSU-designated portion of my bonus was essentially a part of my earned and declared compensation that Lehman forced me to wait five years to receive.

- 7. Pursuant to the RSU Agreements, I recognized that I was contractually obligated to avoid engaging in any "Detrimental Activity" and that I had other ongoing contract obligations under these Agreements. As Lehman cautioned me in the program documents it provided, I had no rights as a stockholder until I became the record holder of stock, and as grantee of these deferred compensation devices called RSUs I had no better rights than those of a general creditor. Further, I had no ability to sell, assign, hedge, pledge or otherwise dispose of the RSUs. I had no rights but the contract rights of an employee whose compensation had been withheld.
- 8. I understand that Lehman takes the position that I was issued "equity securities" for the RSU-designated portion of my bonus in each of the years at issue. For prior years, not at issue here, after the five-year waiting period ended and I was issued the RSU-designated portion of my bonus, at my election, Lehman withheld from this compensation a sufficient amount of to pay the federal withholding tax, and then provided me with Lehman shares for the balance. The entire amount of the bonus was taxed as ordinary income to me. Lehman never report to me any sale of shares on my behalf to raise cash for the withholding tax, which would have been necessary if "equity securities" had been issued to me at the time of the declaration of the bonus.
- 9. I have reviewed the "Factual Background" included in Lehman's Memorandum in Support. It is self-serving and imputes an intent to me that wasn't there. The Background concedes that the RSU-designated portion was withheld from each employee's earned and declared "Total Compensation." The Background claims that the RSUs gave employees a financial stake in the company, but until the end of the waiting period employees had no rights as a stockholder and had nothing but Lehman's contract promise to pay us, someday, the balance of the bonus Lehman had previously declared. Employees like me had no choice as to our participation. What Lehman describes as a financial incentive to remain with Lehman was really

Lehman's arbitrary assertion of financial control by withholding a material percentage of our declared bonuses and threatening not to pay it if we breached certain employment-related conditions Lehman unilaterally imposed. There was nothing in this practice that attracted me to work at Lehman – it was just withholding my earnings as a means of making it costly for me to leave the firm. The RSUs were never a form of compensation I elected to take; it was Lehman's way of handcuffing employees to the firm.

- 10. Lehman's claim that I "originally intended" to treat the RSUs as equity in the firm is unsupported by any evidence and is simply not true. I expected to treat shares as equity when I was issued shares, and that was after the five-year waiting period Lehman unilaterally imposed. In fact, Lehman specifically told me I had no rights as a stockholder until I became the record holder of stock. Further, I did not join Lehman so I could make a profit on its stock or to be compensated with equity. I joined Lehman to have a job and to further my career, and not to have an opportunity to invest in Lehman stock. I never had the intent to put my bonus at risk in an investment over which I had no control. I did not intend, and I had no reason to believe that Lehman intended, for me to be an equity holder before equity was issued, after the five-year waiting period. Further, as a prudent investor I, and many others, sold all stock as soon as it became free to trade, regardless of price. I maintained this practice right through the end of my employment.
- 11. Lehman's representation to the Court that RSU holders had shareholder voting rights even before the stock was issued is incomplete and misleading. The Lehman Brief cites to a description of a trust established to hold an unspecified number of shares that would be voted "in proportion" to the number of RSUs the holder held. But Lehman never tells the Court here what it also never told the employees: What was the proportion of shares held by the Trust relative to the total outstanding RSUs (determining what fraction of a vote the purported RSU

vote had, if any), when did the RSU come to have this purported voting right (i.e., upon grant, upon vesting, or as amortized), and how was the RSU holder's vote solicited? Lehman's statement that holders of RSU had voting rights is not supported by any explanation of how holders exercised these purported voting rights, if indeed they were exercised at all.

- avoided bankruptcy "Claimants would have reaped the benefit" of any increase in the stock price is meaningless to me. What has meaning is what I had before the end of the five-year waiting period. As noted above, Lehman told me I had no rights as a stockholder and equated my rights with those of a general creditor. In each of the years at issue here Lehman declared what I earned as my bonus, promised payment of my bonus, and as one means of performing that promise contracted with me to pay a portion of my bonus in five years using its own stock as currency when that time came. I had no rights to any stock during this five-year waiting period; what I had was a contract promise from Lehman to pay the bonus Lehman previously declared I had earned. When Lehman failed to "avoid bankruptcy," what I was left with was my contract right to the bonus Lehman had declared and promised would be paid.
- 13. Lehman recognized my rights as those of a contract creditor in its petition and schedules, where RSU agreements were listed as Executory Contracts under Schedule G.
- 14. I have attached hereto as Exhibit 1 the Proof of Claim that I filed in connection with my contract rights under the RSU Agreements. My initial Claim was assigned Claim No. 32794. Lehman provided me with this Proof of Claim form. In the form provided, Lehman had largely completed the form, including inserting the caption, supplying my name and address, and notifying me that I had a Claim scheduled as a Schedule G" claim, for an "Executory Contract." Lehman also stated on the form that the scheduled claim related to the "Restricted Stock Unit Agreement."

- 15. All of this information was contained in the Proof of Claim form when Lehman provided it to me. I added only my phone number, email address, the amount of the claim, and my signature and date. Lehman acknowledged receipt of my Proof of Claim form upon my delivery to its claims agent. (Through my attorney I amended my claim under the RSU Agreements. The Amended Claim was assigned Claim No. 65949.)
- 16. The economic substance of the RSU Agreements to me was that a portion of my annual bonus, the bonus that had been declared as part of my Total Compensation for each of the years at issue, was held back, and would be paid to me only after passage of five years. Lehman withheld this compensation unilaterally, and imposed on me certain terms before it would pay the declared bonus.
- 17. Even after vesting of the RSUs there was no right to the common stock, and I did not receive and was not permitted to sell the shares until five years after the date of the RSU Agreement. Even after I was terminated without cause, my right to draw down on the shares depended upon my continued observance of certain contract obligations
- than RSUs. At the time of the grant, I received what is recognized as a security in the form of the stock option. The option provided me with the choice whether to buy LBH shares at a fixed price, the exercise price, when the options vested several years after the grant. The time for exercise was not a fixed date, but a period of time between vesting and lapse during which I would make an investment decision to pay the exercise price, and I then would receive LBH shares. The timing of any exercise, and even the decision whether to hold the option or exercise it, was solely my investment decision. With an RSU, there was a conversion and Lehman stock was simply issued to me at the end of the waiting period Lehman imposed, with no action on my

08-13555-mg Doc 43468 Filed 03/06/14 Entered 03/06/14 15:03:51 Main Document

part. At no time did I exercise any choice or make any investment decision regarding the RSUs

or the delivery, the timing of delivery, or the form of the underlying compensation

19. Finally, with RSUs I paid tax at ordinary income rates on the market value of the

shares Lehman issued to me upon conversion. Upon exercise of stock options I also paid tax at

ordinary income rates, but only on the difference between the current market value of the LBH

shares at the time of exercise and the exercise price.

20. Lehman does not dispute that it retained me to perform services as an employee

and that it received my services, for which at the end of each fiscal year it declared the bonus

portion of my Total Compensation. While I continued to work for Lehman in reliance on its

promise to pay me the compensation it declared that I earned, Lehman now claims for the unpaid

amount the classification of equity, even though no equity was ever issued, I had no rights as a

holder of equity.

21. Lehman did not ask for, and I never provided, a written authorization for

deductions or withholdings from my wages. I respectfully maintain and reassert my rights to be

Michael K. McCully

paid as a general unsecured creditor under the wage laws of the State of New York.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Dated: March 4, 2014

7

EXHIBIT 1

		13468 Filed 03/06/14	Entered 03/06/14 1:	5:03:51 Main Document
c/o Epiq Bankrupt FDR Station, P.O. New York, NY 10	ankruptcy Court/Souther, Holdings Claims Processing ( tey Solutions, LLC Box 5076 0150-5076	n District of New York Pg 9 Contor	PRO	OF OF CLAIM
In Re: Lehman Brothers	Holdings Inc., et al.	Chapter 11 Case No. 08-13555 (JMP)	UNIQUE IDENTIFICATION NUM	BER: 555231120
Name of Debtor Agains	Debtors.  I Which Claim is Held  ERS HOLDINGS, INC.	(Jointly Administered)  Case No. of Debior	Filed: US Lehm	SBC - Southern District of New York nan Brothers Holdings Inc., Et Al.
NOTE: This form's	should not be used to make well	08-13555 (JMP) nim for an administrative expense arising	1117190	08-13555 (JMP) 0000032794
may be filed pursus a claim for Lehman	ment of the case. A request for int to 11 U.S.C. § 503 - Additio i Programs Securities (See defin	r payment of an administrative expense naly, this form should not be used to make nition on reverse side.)		
different from Cre	editor)	address where notices should be sent if SCHEDULE #: 555231120*****	Check this box to indicate that this claim amends a previously filed claim.	NOTICE OF SCHEDULED CLAIM: Your Claim is scheduled by the indicated Debtor as:
333 EA	AST 18TH STREET YORK, NY 10003		Court Claim	SCHEDULE G - EXECUTORY CONTRACT OR UNEXPIRED LEASE
			Number: (If known)	DESCRIPTION: RESTRICTED STOCK UNIT AGREEMENT
212-353- Telephone number	2932 mkn	nccully Egmail. com	Filed on:	\$837,036
Name and address	where payment should be see	at (if different from above)	Check this box if you are aware that anyone else has filed a proof of claim relating to your claim. Attach copy of statement giving particulars.	
Telephone number	r: En	nail Address;	Check this box if you are the debtor or trustee in this case.	
If all or part of you item 4.  If all or part of you item 4.  If all or part of you it a	ar claim is entitled to priority, or claim qualifies as an Admir ox if all or part of your claim is ax if all or part of your claim is ax if all or part of your claim in M IS BASED ON AMOUN' TEE OF A DEBTOR, YOU DIRECTIONS TO COMPL. OCUMENTATION OR YOU OX if claim includes interest or of interest or additional charn-claims.com if claim is a bas aim: Un Para Competent of a compet	Item 4 below; however, if all of your clair complete Item 5.  instrative Expense under 11 U.S.C. §503(I) is based on a Derivative Contract.*  is based on a Derivative Contract.*  is based on a Guarantec.*  ITS OWED PURSUANT TO EITHER A MUST ALSO LOG ON TO http://www.ETE THE APPLICABLE QUESTION.  DUR CLAIM WILL BE DISALLOWER of other charges in addition to the principal ges. Attach itemized statement of interest ed on a Derivative Contract or Guarantec.  ITS OWED PURSUANT TO EITHER A MUST ALSO LOG ON TO http://www.eTE THE APPLICABLE QUESTION.  DUR CLAIM WILL BE DISALLOWER OF OTHER AND A MISTORIAN AND AND AND AND AND AND AND AND AND A	A DERIVATIVE CONTRACT  Lehman-claims.com AND  NAIRE AND UPLOAD  D.  amount of the claim. Attach or charges to this form or on  f setoff and provide the requested  ———————————————————————————————————	5. Amount of Claim Entitled to Priority under 11 U.S.C. § 507(a). If any portion of your claim falls in one of the following categories, check the box and state the amount.  Specify the priority of the claim:  Domestic support obligations under 11 U.S.C. § 507(a)(1)(A) or (a)(1)(B).  Wages, salaries or commissions (up to \$10,950), carned within 180 days before filing of the bankruptcy petition or cessation of the debtor's business, whichever is carlier - 11 U.S.C. § 507(a)(4).  Contributions to an employee benefit plantil U.S.C. § 507(a)(5).  Up to \$2,425 of deposits toward purchase, lease, or rental of property or services for personal, family, or household use - 11 U.S.C. § 507(a)(7).  Taxes or penalties owed to governmental units - 11 U.S.C. § 507(a)(8).  Other - Specify applicable paragraph of 11 U.S.C. § 507(a)(———————————————————————————————————
orders, invoices, ite Attach redacted cop on reverse side.) If DO NOT SEND O SCANNING.	mized statements of running a pics of documents providing control the documents are voluminous RIGINAL DOCUMENTS. cont available, please explain Signature: The person filing	ATTACHED DOCUMENTS MAY BE  1: this claim must sign it. Sign and print name and	promissory notes, purchase s and security agreements. t. (See definition of "redacted" DESTROYED AFTER	FILED   RECEIVED  SEP 2 2 2009
9/21/09	above. Attach copy of power of	aim and state address and telephone number if distance, if any Mull lent claim: Fine of up to \$500,000 or imp	ifferent from the notice address	EPIQ BANKRUPTCY SOLUTIONS, LLC
<del></del>		To ap to opposition of little	resolution for up to 3 years, or boll	n. 16 U.S.C. 98 152 and 3571.

08-13555-mg Doc 43468 Filed 03/06/14 Entered 03/06/14 15:03:51 Main Document Pg 10 of 12

## LEISMAN BROTHERS Executive Compensation Summary Michael K. McCully

				235	!	3		200		g	١	<u>9</u>		03%
	10005470			\$54		215		243,	•	774	<u>, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , </u>	45		\$37.
	Е <b>тр</b> Іоуее ID: 10005470		Share-Payment Date	November 30, 2008	November 30, 2008	May 31, 2009		May 31, 2009			November 30, 2011	November 30, 2012	November 30, 2012	<del>kir.</del>
	(E/21) an		Unite Not	1,795.17	598.29	4,788.08	1,596.05	3,800.94	1,266.98	3,704.93	1,234.96	692.98	230.87	19,709.35
ŦŪ.	Pice @ 1500e (12/3)		Unio	>\$33000	00'0	00.0 Sh4<	00.00	7164 0.00	00.00	00.0 HT\$ <	0.00	¥65 0.00	0.00	0.00
<u> </u>		The second second		71.285.17	598.29	4,788.08	1,598.05	3,800.94	1.288.98	3,704,83	1,234.98	887.88	230.97	19,709.35
Michael N. McCully		UNITS*		0.00	598.29	00.0	1,586.05	0.00	1,266.98	3,704.93	1,234.98	692.98	230.97	
Michael		AWARE	7. jin (	1,795.17	0.00	4,788.08	0.00	3,800.94	0.00	0.00	00'0	0.00	00:0	
				61.25	20.33	126.08	42.05	70.78	23.60	43.86	14.60	2.17	0.70	
				1,733.92	577.96	4,662.00	1,554.00	3,730.16	1,243.38	3,661.07	1,220.36	690.81	230.27	
				2003 SVP Principal	2003 SVP Discount	2004 SVP Principal	2004 SVP Discount	2005 SVP Principal	2005 SVP Discount	2006 SVP Principal	2006 SVP Discount	2007 SVP Principal	2007 SVP Discount	
				Dec 10, 2003	Dec 10, 2003	Dec 09, 2004	Dec 09, 2004	Nov 30, 2005	Nov 30, 2005	Dec 08, 2006	Dec 08, 2006	Dec 07, 2007	Dec 07, 2007	2

A. 738		
	_	- 1
	5	- 1
	ম	
	28	ľ
	ጀ	
3-35	동	
F ST	November 29, 2013	ì
	-	
	12	4
	494	\$
5.5	1	- 1
A TES	١	- 1
		- 1
		_ 1
	9	°
	J	
	-1	
	=======================================	- 1
1000	Nov 29, 2013	
	28	- 1
要で言	3	Į
	_	ı
ഗ	_	ŀ
2 22	•	i
o ·		
Q .	_	
OCK OF	484	494
TOCK OF	484	494
STOCK OF	484	494
STOCK OF	484	494
STOCK OF	78 494	494
STOCK OF	1,978 494	494
STOCK OF	1,978 494	484
STOCK OF Continue	1,978 494	494
STOCK OF	1,976 494	494
STOCK OF	978,1 00	494
STOCK OF	978,1 00	494
STOCK OF	\$35.8950 1,978 494	484
STOCK OF Stricts STOCK OF Cardons	978,1 00	484
STOCK OF	978,1 00	484
STOCK OF	978,1 00	494
STOCK OF	978,1 00	484
STOCK OF	978,1 00	484
STOCK OF	\$35.8950 1,978	494
STOCK OF Configuration of the	\$35.8950 1,978	494
STOCK OF Calling Cardons Cardon Card	\$35.8950 1,978	484
STOCK OF Calling Cardons Cardon Card	\$35.8950 1,978	484
STOCK OF CHILDS CONTROL CHILDS	\$35.8950 1,978	787
STOCK OF Carlotter Carlott	\$35.8950 1,978	484
STOCK OF CHAIR CHA	\$35.8950 1,978	484
STOCK OF  Stock Of Contour Contours  Stock Of Conto	\$35.8950 1,978	484
STOCK OF CHAIR CHA	\$35.8950 1,978	484
STOCK OF  Stock Of Contact Con	\$35.8950 1,978	484
STOCK OF Carlotter Carlott	\$35.8950 1,978	484
STOCK OF Exercises Company Contains Con	978,1 00	484

Disposition of shares assumes an involuntary termination without Cause in March 2008.

For information regarding the provisions which may apply to any awards following your termination, please refer to the applicable plan documents. Please note that with respect to any 2006 and/or 2007 awards, your entitlement to the unvested portion of any principal award is further conditioned on your execution of a Firm-standard release agreement, in accordance with applicable Firm policy.

<sup>\*</sup> Award Units are those equity-based awards other than stock options, i.e. Restricted Stock Units, Conditional Equity Awards or Contingent Stock Awards, as applicable.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Units Vested refers to that portion of the award that has become vested and/or subject to limited conditions, as determined under the applicable plan documents.

TO:

Epiq Bankruptcy Solutions, LLC.

Lehman Brothers Holdings Claim Processing

757 Third Avenue, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor

New York, NY 10017

FR:

Michael K. McCully 333 East 18<sup>th</sup> Street

New York, NY 10003-2802

212-353-2932

mkmccully@gmail.com

RE:

Filing of 3 Proof of Claim Forms

DATE:

September 21, 2009

I have enclosed stamped, self-addressed envelopes and a copy of each Proof of Claim Form I am submitting. Can you please date-stamp the copy and return it to me in the enclosed envelopes, so that I may have a record of this filing.

Thank you.

Mile K. Milally

